

Members Present: Sloan, Kent, Petty

Absent:

Others Present: Mayor Nelson, Adm. Bradley, Clerk Zeman, K. Stieve, T. Pinion, L. Laux

Call to Order –Ald. Sloan called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. noting compliance with the Open Meeting Law. Moved by Petty, seconded by Kent to approve the minutes of July 27, 2021. Motion carried unanimously. Moved by Kent, seconded by Petty to approve the agenda and carried unanimously.

Action Items

- a) **Accounts Payable** – Moved by Petty, seconded by Kent to recommend to Council for approval of the accounts payable for **\$590,214.59**. Motion carried unanimously.
- b) **COVID Policy** – Adm. Bradley explained that because we are now at a high transmission within the community, CDC recommends that everyone wear masks regardless of vaccination status. The policy presented tonight was drafted by attorney Steve Zach based on recommendation from department heads.

Ald. Sloan questioned who we are trying to protect with this policy and disagrees with the policy; it is the CDC's guidance that everyone wear masks, it is not mandatory.

Ald. Kent struggles with this policy as well as he is pro-choice when it comes to employee vaccination. If you are vaccinated, you will receive 80 hrs of paid leave and unvaccinated will be required to use leave time. Are we trying to keep employees safe or are we trying to push people to get vaccinated? The vaccine is only approved for emergency use. Because all employees are carriers, regardless of vaccine status, why don't we go back to the original policy?

Ald. Sloan states that if our goal is to get everyone vaccinated, why aren't we requiring this? Adm. Bradley explains that the discussion was focused on making sure employees are taken care of if they get quarantined. The goal is to keep everyone healthy. Both Ald. Kent & Ald. Sloan feel this policy is trying to incentivize the vaccine. Ald. Petty notes that the one variable that has changed the situation is the Delta variant. He could be a non-symptomatic carrier and give it to someone else. Ald. Kent agrees that we didn't have the Delta variant but also no vaccine was available; why not go back to the original policy? The new policy takes away the employees choice. If the solution is mask, why now are we looking at vaccination status?

Adm. Bradley noted that we would have legal counsel determine any exemption for medical or religious. He also noted that in the past, we have followed guidance from OSHA; they have now switched their recommendation to follow CDC guidelines.

Ald. Petty recommends we approve this policy as it was drafted and recommended by our legal counsel. Ald. Kent is for the original policy; he does not support this current policy. With the current vaccination rate in Wisconsin, it's obvious this is a very divided topic. He agrees with the CDC guidelines of masks but does not agree with subjecting unvaccinated employees to weekly testing and allowing leave time to vaccinated employees but "punishing" those who are not. Ald. Petty supports the policy as written.

Motion by Petty to approve and recommend to Council the City's Employee COVID-19 Policy.
Motion dies for lack of second.

- c) **Fire Dept. Fee Schedule** – K. Stieve explained that this resolution will update the City's fee schedule for CPR training offered to the public. Moved by Petty, seconded by Kent to recommend to Council

to approve CPR Training charges and raising the mileage fee to reflect the going rate. Motion carried unanimously.

- d) **2nd Qtr. 2021 Budget Amendments** – The Committee reviewed the 2nd Qtr. budget amendments. Moved by Petty, seconded by Kent to recommend to Council the approval of the 2nd Qtr. 2021 Budget Amendments. Motion carried unanimously.
- e) **Aldersperson Expense Allowance** – Adm. Bradley noted that any aldersperson currently serving on another committee or board is receiving \$15 per meeting expense allowance. Citizens currently serving on the same committee or boards are receiving \$35 per meeting expense allowance. It was requested that the expense allowance for alderspersons be reviewed. Moved by Petty, seconded by Kent to recommend to Council to approve amending §2.07(1) of the Municipal Code of the City of Baraboo increasing the per-meeting expense allowance from \$15 to \$35 for each meeting attended by an aldersperson or the mayor who are regular members of any of the boards of commission of the City enumerated in Subchapter II of Chapter 1 of the City Code. Motion carried unanimously.

Information Items –

- a. 2nd Qtr. 2021 City Financial Statements
- b. 2nd Qtr. 2021 Taxi Financial Statements

Adjournment – Moved by Petty, seconded by Kent and carried to adjourn at 6:40 pm.
Brenda Zeman, City Clerk